

Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

10/518794

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

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| Applicant's or agent's file reference P140762 MG/MR | FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416) | |
| International application No. PCT/CH2003/000404 | International filing date (day/month/year) 23 June 2003 (23.06.2003) | Priority date (day/month/year) 21 June 2002 (21.06.2002) |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC B29C 45/14 | | |
| Applicant WEIDMANN PLASTICS TECHNOLOGY AG | | |

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 6 sheets, including this cover sheet.

This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of 3 sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I Basis of the report
- II Priority
- III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV Lack of unity of invention
- V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI Certain documents cited
- VII Certain defects in the international application
- VIII Certain observations on the international application

| | |
|---|---|
| Date of submission of the demand 20 December 2003 (20.12.2003) | Date of completion of this report 04 October 2004 (04.10.2004) |
| Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP | Authorized officer |
| Facsimile No. | Telephone No. |

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International Application No.

PCT/CH2003/000404

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

 the international application as originally filed the description:

pages 2-8, as originally filed

pages , filed with the demand

pages 1, 1a, filed with the letter of 24 June 2004 (24.06.2004)

 the claims:

pages , as originally filed

pages , as amended (together with any statement under Article 19

pages , filed with the demand

pages 1-26, filed with the letter of 24 June 2004 (24.06.2004)

 the drawings:

pages 1/2-2/2, as originally filed

pages , filed with the demand

pages , filed with the letter of

 the sequence listing part of the description:

pages , as originally filed

pages , filed with the demand

pages , filed with the letter of

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language

 the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)). the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)). the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

 contained in the international application in written form. filed together with the international application in computer readable form. furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form. furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form. The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished. The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of: the description, pages the claims, Nos. the drawings, sheets/fig5. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

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III. Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability

1. The questions whether the claimed invention appears to be novel, to involve an inventive step (to be non obvious), or to be industrially applicable have not been examined in respect of:

the entire international application.

claims Nos. 19

because:

the said international application, or the said claims Nos. _____ relate to the following subject matter which does not require an international preliminary examination (specify):

the description, claims or drawings (indicate particular elements below) or said claims Nos. 19 are so unclear that no meaningful opinion could be formed (specify):

See supplemental box

the claims, or said claims Nos. _____ are so inadequately supported by the description that no meaningful opinion could be formed.

no international search report has been established for said claims Nos. _____

2. A meaningful international preliminary examination cannot be carried out due to the failure of the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence listing to comply with the standard provided for in Annex C of the Administrative Instructions:

the written form has not been furnished or does not comply with the standard.

the computer readable form has not been furnished or does not comply with the standard.

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PCT/CH/00404**Supplemental Box**
(To be used when the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient)

Continuation of: III.1

The method according to claim 19 fails to satisfy the requirements of PCT Article 6 since, in fact, a product (decorative part) is claimed, not a method with specific method steps. Furthermore, the characterising part of claim 25, which claim is directed to a product, contains features identical to those of claim 19.

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V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------|-------------|-----|
| Novelty (N) | Claims | 1-18, 20-26 | YES |
| | Claims | | NO |
| Inventive step (IS) | Claims | 1-18, 20-26 | YES |
| | Claims | | NO |
| Industrial applicability (IA) | Claims | 1-18, 20-26 | YES |
| | Claims | | NO |

2. Citations and explanations

1. The method according to claim 1 is correctly delimited over the closest prior art, namely PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN, vol. 8, no. 83 (M-290), 17 April 1984 & JP-A-59001236 (D1). In order to produce aesthetically pleasing products of various designs despite mass production, it is proposed that the coating on the front of the component be transparent or translucent in part. In this way, an improved optical effect of depth is obtained. Thus, the method according to claim 1 appears to meet the requirements of PCT Article 33.
2. Dependent claims 2-18 relate to further embodiments of the invention and likewise appear to satisfy the requirements of the PCT.
3. At present, the product according to claim 20 fails to meet the requirements of PCT Article 6 since the subfeature "transparent in part" according to claim 1 is not included in the characterising part of claim 20. Moreover, claim 20 should, of course, refer back not only to claim 1 but also to the other current dependent claims. This defect can be corrected upon entry into the national or regional phase.

4. In all other respects, since the cited prior art does not disclose the subject matter of claim 20, said claim appears to meet the requirements of PCT Article 33. The same applies with regard to claims 21-26.